

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated March 10, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over International Publication 99/219935 or Vitukhnovsky et al. both in view of International Publication WO 2003/017731 to Bellman et al. The Bellman et al. reference was cited as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a). In response to Applicant's previously-filed Affidavit, the Examiner stated that the Affidavit "is unconvincing since it is not clear that the transfer layers of dendrimers in the notebook pages consisted of the dendrimers without additional components." (Office Action, p. 2.)

Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to correlate it with the invention actually reduced to practice as evidenced by the lab notebook pages submitted with the Affidavit. In particular, independent claim 1 has been amended to state that the transfer layer consists of "one or more light-emitting dendrimers and a single non-dendrimeric host material." This amendment is supported in the application as filed. (See Specification, p. 12, line 1 to p. 13, line 29.)

The specification identifies dendrimers and non-dendrimeric materials for the transfer layer. Those non-dendrimeric materials include other electrically active light producing materials and non-light producing materials, and the specification provides several examples of those types of materials. Id. The specification also states that the electrically active materials, which includes dendrimers, "may be provided alone or in combination with other organic or inorganic materials that are functional or non-functional in the OEL device made therewith." Id. at p. 13, lines 4-5. A host material is typically a material that provides a particular function in the device, and the specification thus identifies non-dendrimeric functional materials that can be used with the dendrimers, as now claimed. Finally, the specification also identifies examples of functions for the non-dendrimeric materials, such as "producing, conducting, or semi-conducting a charge carrier." Id. at p. 12 lines 9-10; see also id. at p. 13, lines 22-23 (identifying the use of "charge transport materials" and "charge injection materials").

In the lab notebook, one experiment involved using, as the transfer layer in formulation 1, the following: "spiro-CBP-S1:emitter 80:20 (w/w, dendrimer)." (Affidavit dated Feb. 9, 2006, Lab Notebook p. 58.) The term "spiro-CBP-S1" means spiro-carbazole biphenyl-S1, where "spiro" refers to a generic term for two ring structures with a common carbon atom and

"carbazole biphenyl" refers to a moiety appended to the spiro ring complex that has known and desirable electronic properties for use as a triplet emitter host. The "S1" has no chemical meaning and was added to the material designator by the company that supplied this material for the experiment. The "spiro-CBP-S1" is thus a non-dendrimeric host material. As indicated in formula 1 in the lab notebook, the transfer layer in the experiment consisted of 80% by weight the non-dendrimeric host material and 20% by weight the dendrimer.

That formulation actually reduced to practice corresponds with Applicant's claim 1 as amended. Also, the specification, as noted above, identifies the use of non-dendrimeric materials having desirable electronic properties such as "charge transport materials" and "charge injection materials." (Specification, p. 13, lines 1-13 and 20-26.) Accordingly, as supported by the Affidavit and accompanying lab notebook pages, Applicant achieved actual reduction to practice of the present invention, as now defined in claim 1, prior to February 27, 2003 and, therefore, Bellman et al. does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a). With Bellman et al. removed as prior art, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-17 are patentable for at least the reason that the cited references do not disclose or suggest thermal transfer of dendrimers with a single non-dendrimeric host material.

Based upon the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-17 are patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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